



October 26, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
Secretary of Transportation
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

The Honorable Andrew Wheeler
Acting Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Madam Secretary and Acting Administrator Wheeler:

We write to express our united support for the Safer Affordable Fuel-Efficient (SAFE) Vehicles Rule proposed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency, reforming the current Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards.¹

Our states have demonstrated that environmental preservation and free enterprise are compatible and necessarily linked. Indeed, free markets naturally reward producers for developing effective, desirable environmental innovations to meet consumer demand. Government undermines both goals when it enacts policies that pit environmental preservation against free enterprise, hindering free markets, propping-up inferior solutions, and ultimately reducing prosperity.

The CAFE standards enacted by the previous administration are a prime example of such a misguided policy. The standards create unrealistic fuel economy requirements that President Trump has accurately characterized as “industry-killing regulations.”

The SAFE Vehicles Rule provides realistic fuel economy goals that will conserve energy and further protect the environment without stifling the market economy or forcing consumers’ hands. Moreover, by establishing a nationwide, realistic fuel economy standard, the SAFE Vehicles Rule will make cars more affordable. No longer will manufacturers be required to spend billions of dollars to meet onerous and unnecessary emissions

¹ The proposed rule is entitled “The Safer Affordable Fuel-Efficient (SAFE) Vehicles Rule for Model Years 2021–2026 Passenger Cars and Light Trucks (SAFE Vehicles Rule)” and was published in the Federal Register on August 24, 2018 at 83 FR 42817 and 83 FR 42986.

standards imposed by only one of the fifty states. Nor will manufacturers be forced to jump through duplicative regulatory hoops just to bring their cars to market. These savings will be passed on to consumers, allowing more Americans to buy new cars and to reap the benefits of the improved energy and safety features.

Although our states differ in many ways, all of our citizens benefit from free-market policies that increase prosperity. We thus write jointly to express our strong support for the proposed SAFE Vehicles Rule, and to urge the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency to adopt this rule and reform the CAFE standards.

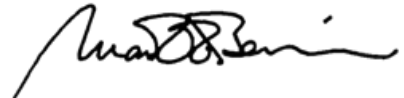
Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Greg Abbott in black ink.

Governor Greg Abbott
Texas

Handwritten signature of Jeff Colyer in black ink.

Governor Jeff Colyer
Kansas

Handwritten signature of Matt Bevin in black ink.

Governor Matt Bevin
Kentucky

Handwritten signature of Paul R. LePage in blue ink.

Governor Paul R. LePage
Maine

Handwritten signature of Phil Bryant in black ink.

Governor Phil Bryant
Mississippi

Handwritten signature of Pete Ricketts in black ink.

Governor Pete Ricketts
Nebraska

Handwritten signature of Doug Burgum in black ink.

Governor Doug Burgum
North Dakota

Handwritten signature of Mary Fallin in black ink.

Governor Mary Fallin
Oklahoma